4413(1)
HEALTH
C 12 AUG 60
C.R 54

~~1 Mr Burness~~
3 Library

LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE AND TROPICAL MEDICINE
4 - APR 1963

BOROUGH OF EPSOM AND EWELL

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

for the year

1959

—oooOooo—

Public Health Department,
West Hill House,
West Hill,
EPSOM,
Surrey.

June, 1960.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Epsom and Ewell

LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE LIBRARY 4 - APR 1963

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit an annual report for the year 1959. The request for this report is made in Ministry of Health Circular 1/60 in which there is reference to Regulations 5 (3) and 15 (5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959. The report is in a form which meets the requirements of the Ministry as summarised in the letter.

Health conditions have, on the whole, been satisfactory and the vital statistics for the year bear this out. The number of births was the highest since 1949 and the associated infant mortality rate was the lowest yet recorded in Epsom and Ewell. The number of deaths was slightly lower than in the previous year, and although deaths outnumbered births by 217 there are exceptional circumstances to account for this. These are described in Section I of the report.

The year was uneventful so far as the incidence of infectious disease was concerned. Numerically the epidemic of measles, continued from the previous year, was the outstanding feature; the number of cases of scarlet fever increased; poliomyelitis was confined to one fatal case, an unvaccinated adult. This was the second year in succession in which the incidence of poliomyelitis has been limited to one case. The natural hope is that this is due to the effect of the campaign of vaccination against this disease. So far as the population under 18 years of age is concerned, it could well be so, for it is estimated that 87% have been treated. In the population above 18 years of age and below 40 years, which is the present upper age limit for the scheme, less than 50% have been vaccinated. Those untreated in this section of the community may be running an enhanced risk of infection if the virus became active in the district.

The annual report of the Chief Public Health Inspector is the last to be written by the present holder of the appointment, Mr. W. H. C. Hagger, who is due to retire in May, 1960. He has presented twenty-three such reports and they contain a record of the steady progress towards improved environmental conditions which has been made during his term of office. With Mr. Hagger's retirement the Council loses the services of a most conscientious and popular officer. The Council has decided to promote his deputy, Mr. L. H. Grace, to fill the vacancy.

Once again I wish to bring to the notice of the Council the conscientious work of all members of the Public Health Department, and the assistance which I have received from the Chief Officers of the departments of the Council's administration.

I take this opportunity of thanking the Council and particularly the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for the continued support and encouragement during the year.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

Your obedient Servant,

CYRUS IVE.

Medical Officer of Health.

BOROUGH OF EPSOM AND EWELL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1959-60

Chairman	Alderman	J. A. Larby, J.P.
Vice-Chairman	"	Mrs. A. Winter
	Councillor	W. J. Clark
	"	H. W. Davison
	"	G. H. Excell
	"	W. J. D. Godsell
	"	T. G. Holland
	"	H. N. Howorth, T.D., A.C.A.
	"	S. L. Skilton
	"	I. F. Tugwell
	"	E. J. Watts
	"	Mrs. L. M. Woodcock
Ex Officio Members		The Mayor and Deputy Mayor

HOUSING (SELECTION OF TENANTS) SUB-COMMITTEE

Representatives on the Sub-Committee set up by the Housing Committee:- The Chairman (or in his absence Councillor Watts and Councillor Holland)

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES SUB-COMMITTEE

Councillors W. J. Clark, T. G. Holland and Mrs. L. M. Woodcock

ABOLITION OF CESSPOOLS SUB-COMMITTEE

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman and Alderman W. J. D. Godsell, and three representatives each of the Sewerage and Sewage Disposal, Water and Finance Committees.

Representatives of the Council on

(1) CENTRAL DIVISIONAL (HEALTH) SUB-COMMITTEE

Aldermen Mrs. A. Winter, O.H.N. Langston, J. A. Larby and F. Tonlin

(2) EPSOM AND LEATHERHEAD TUBERCULOSIS CARE COMMITTEE

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Public Health Committee.

BOROUGH OF EPSOM AND EWELL

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

o Cyrus Ive, M.B.,B.S.,(Lond.),M.R.C.S.,(Eng.),L.R.C.P.,(Lond.),D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

✓ Wm. H. C. Hagger M.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

x✓ L. H. Grace A.R.S.H.,M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

✓ W. C. Alder M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
✓ K. H. Halstead A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Trained Nurse engaged (part-time) on Public Health Duties

Mrs. Olive Roberts, S.R.N.

Medical Officer of Health's Clerical Staff

Senior Clerk:	Position vacant
Secretary/Clerk:	Miss E. E. Nolan
Clerk/Telephonist:	Mrs. M. E. Joseph
Junior Clerk:	Miss G. F. Skidmore

Chief Public Health Inspector's Clerical Staff and Outdoor Staff

Chief Clerk:	H.J.T. Woolford,A.R.S.H.
Senior Shorthand-typist & Clerk:	Miss D. D. Wood
Shorthand-typist and Clerk:	Mrs. J. Bulezuik
General Assistants and Mortuary Attendants:	W. Goodenough J. I. Stephens
Rodent Operative:	A. Bawden

o The Medical Officer of Health and his clerical staff act in a similar capacity for the Dorking and Leatherhead Urban Districts and for the Dorking and Horley Rural Districts.

✓ Holds the Royal Society of Health Certificate as Inspector of Meath and Other Foods.

x Holds Sanitary Science Certificate of the Royal Society of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR
THE YEAR 1959

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

1.	Area (acres)	8,427
	Population (Census 1951)	68,055
	Population (Estimated mid-year 1959)	67,880
	Density (persons per acre)	8.1
	Number of inhabited houses at 31st December, 1959 ...	19,523
	Rateable Value at 31st December, 1959	£1,309,697
	Product of penny rate	£5,427

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

Live Births	Total	Male	Female
Total	800	404	396
Legitimate	773	391	382
Illegitimate	27	13	14

Live Birth rate per 1,000 population	11.8
Standardised Birth rate " "	14.1
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	3.4

Still Births

Total	18	9	9

Still birth rate per 1,000 live & still births	22.0

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

Total	9	3	6
Legitimate	8	2	6
Illegitimate	1	1	-

Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births total	11.3
" " " " " " " legitimate	10.4
" " " " " " " illegitimate	37.0

Neonatal Mortality

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age per 1000 live births	7.5

Early Neonatal Mortality

Deaths of infants under 1 week of age per 1,000 live births	6.1

Perinatal Mortality

Still births & deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live & still births	12.7

Maternal Mortality

Maternal deaths (including abortion)	-
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live & still births	-

Deaths

Total	1,017	483	534
Private Residents	651		
Patients in Mental Hospitals	366		

Crude death rate	15.0
Standardised death rate	9.1

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR
THE YEAR 1959

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

1.	Area (acres)	8,427
	Population (Census 1951)	68,055
	Population (Estimated mid-year 1959)	67,880
	Density (persons per acre)	8.1
	Number of inhabited houses at 31st December, 1959 ...	19,523
	Rateable Value at 31st December, 1959	£1,309,697
	Product of penny rate	£5,427

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

Live Births	Total	Male	Female
Total	800	404	396
Legitimate	773	391	382
Illegitimate	27	13	14

Live Birth rate per 1,000 population	11.8
Standardised Birth rate " "	14.1
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	3.4

Still Births			
Total	18	9	9

Still birth rate per 1,000 live & still births	22.0

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age			
Total	9	3	6
Legitimate	8	2	6
Illegitimate	1	1	-

Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births total	11.3
" " " " " " " legitimate	10.4
" " " " " " " illegitimate	37.0

Neonatal Mortality	
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age per 1000 live births	7.5

Early Neonatal Mortality	
Deaths of infants under 1 week of age per 1,000 live births	6.1

Perinatal Mortality	
Still births & deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live & still births	12.7

Maternal Mortality	
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	-
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live & still births	-

Deaths			
Total	1,017	483	534
Private Residents	651		
Patients in Mental Hospitals	366		

Crude death rate	15.0
Standardised death rate	9.1

BIRTHS

Live births numbered 800 and this total was the highest since 1949, giving a crude birth rate of 11.8 per 1,000 population. A comparability factor (1.20) has been supplied by the Registrar General, the use of which allows for the variation in age and sex distribution of the population in different areas, and permits comparison of the local rate with those of other districts. It also takes into account the presence of residential institutions in the locality concerned. After application of the factor a standardised birth rate of 14.1 is obtained. The annual birth rate for England and Wales in 1959 was 16.5.

Of the 800 births 27 were illegitimate. The percentage of illegitimate to legitimate births was 3.4, the corresponding figure for the County of Surrey being 4.1.

Still births numbered 18, giving a rate of 22.0 per 1,000 live and still births compared with the rate of 20.7 for England and Wales.

DEATHS

Deaths assigned to the area numbered 1,017 representing a crude death rate for the district of 15.0 per 1,000 of the estimated total resident population. This number was made up of 483 males and 534 females, and was 50 less than in 1958. It included 366 of the deaths which occurred in the local group of mental hospitals which had a mid-year patient population of 7,242. On these figures the death rate for the mental hospital population was approximately 50.5 per 1,000 and that for the remainder of the district was 10.7. The comparatively high death rate in the hospital population is not unexpected when it is remembered that all of those admitted are in an abnormal state of health at the time, and that the majority are of an advanced age.

Three hundred and sixty-eight of the 651 deaths of private residents occurred in hospitals or nursing homes, equivalent to 57% of the total.

A comparability factor has been provided by the Registrar General which may be applied to the crude death rate for use in comparing the local death rate with the standardised rates for other areas or with the crude death rate for England and Wales. Comparability factors are designed to allow for any local differences in the population structure in relation to age and sex from that of England and Wales as a whole. Since 1956 the factor has also been adjusted to take into account the presence of the large residential institutions which exist in this area.

The comparability factor for 1959 is 0.61 and when this is applied to the crude death rate of 15.0 a standardised death rate of 9.1 results. The rate has stood at this level for three successive years.

Causes of Death

The causes of deaths assigned are classified in Table III. Of the total of 1,017 deaths, diseases of the heart and vascular system (categories 17-21 in Table III) caused 528, malignant diseases (categories 10-14) 177, and diseases of the respiratory system (categories 23-25) 101 deaths.

Accidental Deaths

Road Accidents

Four residents were killed in road accidents involving motor vehicles, all the accidents taking place on roads within the Borough. In 1958 there were five deaths due to this cause. Brief details are as follows:-

BIRTHS

Live births numbered 800 and this total was the highest since 1949, giving a crude birth rate of 11.8 per 1,000 population. A comparability factor (1.20) has been supplied by the Registrar General, the use of which allows for the variation in age and sex distribution of the population in different areas, and permits comparison of the local rate with those of other districts. It also takes into account the presence of residential institutions in the locality concerned. After application of the factor a standardised birth rate of 14.1 is obtained. The annual birth rate for England and Wales in 1959 was 16.5.

Of the 800 births 27 were illegitimate. The percentage of illegitimate to legitimate births was 3.4, the corresponding figure for the County of Surrey being 4.1.

Still births numbered 18, giving a rate of 22.0 per 1,000 live and still births compared with the rate of 20.7 for England and Wales.

DEATHS

Deaths registered to the year numbered 1,017 representing a crude death rate for the district of 13.0 per 1,000 of the estimated total resident population. This number was made up of 489 males and 528 females, and was 20 less than in 1958. It included 366 of the deaths which occurred in the local group of mental hospitals which had a six-year patient population of 7,212. On these figures the death rate for the mental hospital population was approximately 50.5 per 1,000 and that for the remainder of the district was 10.7. The comparatively high death rate in the hospital population is not unexpected when it is remembered that all of these patients are in an advanced state of health at the time, and that the majority are of an advanced age.

Three hundred and sixty-eight of the 831 deaths of private residents occurred in hospitals or nursing homes, equivalent to 59% of the total.

A comparability factor has been provided by the Registrar General which may be applied to the crude death rate for use in comparing the local death rate with the standardised rates for other areas or with the crude death rate for England and Wales. Comparability factors are designed to allow for any local differences in the population structure in relation to age and sex from that of England and Wales as a whole. Since 1956 the factor has also been adjusted to take into account the presence of the large residential institutions which exist in this area.

The comparability factor for 1959 is 0.61 and when this is applied to the crude death rate of 13.0 a standardised death rate of 9.1 results. The rate has stood at this level for three successive years.

Causes of Death

The causes of deaths assigned are classified in Table III. Of the total of 1,017 deaths, diseases of the heart and vascular system (categories 17-21 in Table III) caused 328, malignant diseases (categories 10-14) 177, and diseases of the respiratory system (categories 23-25) 101 deaths.

Accidental Deaths

Road Accidents

Four residents were killed in road accidents involving motor vehicles, all the accidents taking place on roads within the Borough. In 1958 there were five deaths due to this cause. Brief details are as follows:-

Accidental Deaths (cont.)

Road Accidents

1. A child aged 2 years was knowcked down and received fatal injuries while playing in the vicinity of a delivery van.

2. An elderly woman received fatal injuries while travelling as a passenger in a motor car in collison with another car.

3. A boy aged 11 years was killed when riding a bicycle and colliding with a lorry.

4. An elderly female pedestrian was run over by a car and received fatal injuries.

Other Accidents

Other accidents caused 14 deaths compared with 11 in 1958. Several of these were due to complications following falls. One death was due to a fall from a bicycle, no motor vehicle being involved, and another by a fall from a cliff.

Suicide

There were 9 deaths by suicide. Coal gas from the domestic supply was used for the purpose in 7 cases.

Infant Mortality

Deaths of children under 1 year of age numbered 8, giving an infant mortality rate of 11.3 per 1,000 live births, compared with 22.0 for England and Wales. Six of the deaths occurred within 4 weeks of birth, the neonatal mortality rate being 7.5 per 1,000 live births.

The infant mortality rate is the lowest yet recorded for Epsom and Ewell, and this is a reminder that great credit is due to all persons involved in the safeguarding of infant health, whether as parents or by profession.

Five of the deaths were the result of congenital abnormalities inconsistent with prolonged life, 2 were due to prematurity, 1 to severe epilepsy and 1 to suppurative bronchitis.

Included in the above was the death of an illegitimate child, the cause of death being due to congenital defects. The infant mortality rate for illegitimate children was 37.0 per 1,000 live births. In 1958 the rate was 43.5.

Maternal Mortality

There was no death attributable to maternal causes.

POPULATION

The Registrar General's estimate of population was 67,880 representing an increase of 290 compared with last year. This figure is 175 less than the population total found at the Census taken in 1951.

The number of patients in the mental hospitals was 7,242, this being 31 less than in the previous year.

Table I includes birth and death rates, with a comparison with the figures for 1958, and Table II gives a comparison of birth, death and infant mortality rates for the district since 1931, with the figures for England and Wales for the same period.

2. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The Public Health Laboratory service is maintained by the Medical Research Council on behalf of the Ministry of Health. A local laboratory of the service is situated at West Hill House, West Hill, Epsom.

The staff of the laboratory examine and report on material submitted by medical practitioners and on bacteriological conditions of samples of milk, food and water taken by local authorities' Public Health Departments. The results of the examination of water and milk supplies are summarised in later sections of this report, and those relating to ice-cream are dealt with in the Chief Public Health Inspector's report.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

The public ambulance service is under the control of the Surrey County Council, who have given the following information regarding the use of the service in this area:-

The Borough is in the Metropolitan area of control, the main ambulance station being situated in Malden (Telephone No. Malden 7733). There is a sub-station in Langton Avenue, Ewell.

In accidents in the home or elsewhere or in sudden illness in streets or public places, any responsible persom may call the ambulance to remove the patient (if by telephone dial 999). Normal maternity cases will be removed if the applicant can give evidence that a maternity bed has been booked. Maternity cases with serious complications or where birth is imminent, will not normally be moved without the authority of a doctor or certified midwife who should travel with the patient in the ambulance. The removal of other cases of illness or accident will be arranged by the hospital concerned, or by the medical practitioner in charge of the patient. For private removals a written request, accompanied by a Doctor's certificate, should be made to the County Medical Officer for his consideration. Providing that these requirements are fulfilled no charge will be made to users.

DOMICILIARY NURSING AND DOMESTIC HELP

Domiciliary nursing is carried out by the district nursing staff of the County Council whose address is The Nurses Home, 19 Alexandra Road, Epsom, (telephone No. Epsom 1153).

PROVISION OF NURSING EQUIPMENT AND APPARATUS

The British Red Cross Society (Epsom, Ewell and Stoneleigh Division) maintain a Medical Loan Depot at Red Cross House, 117 East Street, Epsom (telephone No. Epsom 3250). The hours of opening are:-

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 10 a.m. - 12 noon.

The depot has a wide range of equipment necessary for nursing in the home.

HOME HELP SERVICE

This service is administered locally by the Divisional Medical Officer of the Surrey County Council. Details of the service can be obtained from the supervisor at Ashley House, Ashley Road, Epsom, (telephone No. Epsom 9512).

CARE OF MOTHERS, YOUNG CHILDREN, ETC.

The provision of services relating to the care of mothers and young children, midwifery, health visiting, home nursing, immunisation and vaccination, and domestic help are the responsibility of the Surrey County Council as local health authority. Day-to-day administration is carried on by the Central Divisional Health Sub-Committee with offices at Ashley House, Ashley Road, Epsom. The Health Centres are situated at 44, Waterloo Road, Epsom and at Ewell Court House, Ewell.

Some of the outlying parts of the Borough are served by centres situated in adjacent districts, and for the isolated areas of Langley Vale and the Wells Estate clinics are held twice a month at conveniently situated premises.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus and poliomyelitis and vaccination against smallpox can be obtained from general practitioners under the terms of the National Health Service Act, or from County Council Clinics. Details of the numbers immunised are included in Section 6 of this report.

FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION'S CLINIC

A branch of the Family Planning Association functions in the Borough. It provides a weekly clinic at the Epsom District Hospital with the consent of the Hospital Management Committee and the Medical Superintendent. The medical staff is appointed by the Association and is assisted by voluntary workers. The work of the Association is concerned with the teaching of contraception to married persons, and also with the investigation of sub-fertility and other sex problems.

Information has been received from the Hon. Secretary (Mrs. E. M. Hawley, 44 Copse Edge Avenue, Epsom (telephone No. Epsom 2769) of the local branch of the Association, that 2,241 visits were made to the clinic in the past year, including 442 first visits, and that postal enquiries totalled 1,710.

TREATMENT OF SCABIES, DELOUSING

The clinic for the treatment of people suffering from scabies has continued its work in the premises at the rear of "The Cedars", Church Street, Epsom. The work is carried out by a general trained State Registered Nurse, employed part-time, and has undoubtedly been effective in its results. The function of the clinic is essentially treatment, and patients are not accepted unless referred by a medical practitioner. Emphasis is laid on the importance of prophylactic treatment for close contacts.

Treatment of Scabies, Delousing, (cont.)

Facilities of the clinic are available to the residents of Leatherhead Urban District, whose Council undertakes a proportionate share of the cost of the establishment. During the year 11 persons attended for treatment, all being residents of the Borough.

The clinic can also be used in assisting persons to rid themselves of infestation by head and body lice, though in recent years the call for this service has become very small.

VENEREAL DISEASES

The Regional Hospital Board is the authority responsible for the administration of matters dealing with the diagnosis and treatment of Venereal Diseases. Details of local clinics are set out on page 11.

CARE OF THE ELDERLY

Institutional accommodation for old people not requiring hospital treatment is provided by the County Council. Hospital accommodation is provided by the Epsom Group Hospital Management Committee.

Domiciliary help in several forms is available to old persons. The activities of the Epsom and Ewell Old People's Welfare Committee include the provision of chiropody services, the organisation of social clubs, visits of a "meals-on-wheels" service, "night/day attendance" service, a personal laundry service and help with holidays.

The Women's Voluntary Services and the British Red Cross Society are able to help with clothing, social visits and the provision of escorts. The British Red Cross Society can supply nursing equipment and invalid foods.

Home nursing and supervision of old peoples welfare is the responsibility of the County Council acting through its Divisional Medical and Welfare Officers.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

In these Acts powers are given to local authorities to seek Court Orders for the compulsory temporary removal to hospital or institution of persons in ill health or in a senile state who are in a state of neglect. No action was required during the year.

Since the Acts came into operation, three Orders for a compulsory removal have been asked for, the application having been successful in each case.

LOCATION AND TIME-TABLE OF CLINICS

On the following page the location and time-table of clinics is set out in convenient form for reference.

LOCATION AND TIME-TABLE OF CLINICS

Ante-natal Clinics	Epsom District Hospital	Mons. & Thurs. 2 p.m.
	Ewell Court House	Fris. 1.30 - 4 p.m.
	Priory Cresc. Nth.Cheam	Mons. & Fris. 9.30 a.m. - 12 noon
	Stonecot Hill, Sutton	Tues. 10 a.m. - 12 noon
Child Welfare Clinics	44 Waterloo Road, Epsom	Mons. & Weds. 2 - 4 p.m.
	Ewell Court House	Mons. Weds. & Thurs. 1.30 - 4 p.m.
	Dell Road, Stoneleigh	Tues. 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
	Jubilee Inst. Malden Rd. Worcester Park	Mons. & Thurs. 1.30 - 4 p.m.
	Priory Crescent, North Cheam	Mons & Thurs. 1.30 - 4 p.m.
	Parochial Rooms, Malden Rd., Cheam	Weds. 2 - 4 p.m.
	Stonecot Hill, Sutton	Mons. Weds. & Fris. 2 - 4 p.m.
	St. Stephens Church Hall, Rosebery Rd. Epsom Downs	1st, 3rd & 5th Weds. in month at 2 p.m.
	Wells Estate	1st, 3rd & 5th Tues. in month at 2 p.m.
	Headley Village Hall	4th Mon. in month 2 - 4 p.m.
Family Planning Association Clinic	Epsom District Hospital	Fris. 7 p.m.
Scabies Treatment Clinic	"The Cedars", Church St., Epsom	By Appointment
Chest Clinic	Epsom District Hospital	Tues. & Thurs. 2 p.m. Every 3rd Thurs in mth. at 5.30 p.m.
Venereal Diseases	St. Helier Hospital	Males: Mons. 4-6.30 p.m. Females: Weds. 5-7 p.m.
	(And at the Out-Patient Dept. of many London Hospitals)	
Immunisation and Vaccination	44 Waterloo Road, Epsom	Every Fri. 11 a.m.
	Ewell Court House	Every Mon. 11 a.m.

WATER

Epsom is supplied by water from the Council's undertaking. The water is obtained from deep wells, boring and adits in the chalk situated in East Street, and yields a quantity sufficient for all the needs of the community. It is chlorinated before distribution. No softening process is carried out though it is the Council's intention to install a softening process when it is able to obtain the sanction of the Ministry of Health to the financial expediture. Frequent bacteriological samples and chemical samples of raw and treated water are taken under the direction of the Borough Water Engineer. The results show that the water pumped to supply has been of good quality.

Ewell and the greater part of Cuddington are supplied by the Sutton District Water Company with a softened water derived from wells situated at Cheam, Sutton and Woodmansterne. Frequent samples for bacteriological examination have been taken from premises in this area and results found to be satisfactory. Copies of analytical reports have also been received at regular intervals on samples taken by the Company's officials.

Typical results of the examinations of these public water supplies are set out below:-

	Epsom & Ewell Corporation	Sutton District Water Company
Appearance	Bright & Clear	Bright & Clear
Colour	Faint Blue	Nil
Odour	None	Nil
pH	7.3	8.3
Electric conductivity	500	270
Total solid residue	330	200
Chlorides as chlorine	17.5	18
Ammonia, free	0.00	0.053
Ammonia, albuminoid	0.02	0.000
Nitrate nitrogen	7.6	9.5
Nitrite nitrogen	-	0.1
Oxygen absorbed	0.16	0.25
Hardness: total	280	115
Temporary	235	60
permanent	45	55
Residual chlorine	-	0.04
Metals: zinc	a trace	absent
Iron	absent	absent
copper	absent	absent
lead	absent	absent

Chemical results in parts per million.

The West Park and Manor Hospitals possess deep wells from which considerable volumes of water are pumped, chlorinated and distributed within the institutions. The bulk of the water used in both hospitals is, however, taken from the Corporation's mains. The bacteriological quality of the water taken from the wells is under the observation of the Council's Public Health Department.

A number of houses in the northern part of the area are supplied by the Metropolitan Water Board, and two cottages on the south-west outskirts of Epsom by the East Surrey Water Company.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Sewage Disposal

The treatment works administered by the Hogsmill Valley Joint Sewerage Board, situated in the Borough of Malden and Coombe, receive and treat all sewage from the Borough. As a result the condition of the Hogsmill Stream, which formerly received the effluent from works in Epsom and in Ewell has greatly improved.

Cesspools

There are 83 cesspools in the Borough and at 14 premises pail or chemical closets are in use.

With a view to encouraging owners of premises with cesspool drainage to connect to the public sewer, where practicable, the Council has agreed to a recommendation of the Joint Cesspool Sub-Committee, to undertake the work of re-drainage and connection to the sewer, the cost to be met by the owner by repayment over an agreed period of years.

In cases requiring conversion from earth or pail closets and connection to sewer, the Council has agreed to the cost being borne equally by the owner and the Corporation, as provided in Section 47 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

During the year 5 cesspools were abolished.

EPSOM DOWNS

Sanitary Conditions on Epsom Downs

Conditions on the Downs resulting from the crowds attending race meetings continue to cause concern to the Public Health Department. The Council's mobile conveniences were patronised by about the same number of racegoers as in previous years. The remainder of the racegoers on the free portions of the course were obliged to use temporary conveniences erected by private enterprise, with ultimate disposal of excreta into the ground. The numerous caravan dwellers associated with these meetings who settle on the course for a period of 1 to 2 weeks use similar methods for the disposal of soil and waste water.

Apart from race meetings, the increasing number of visitors to the Downs, particularly in the vicinity of the numerous car parks, has created a situation which requires urgent attention. In contrast with the recognised difficulties of dealing with race crowds, this problem could be solved by the provision of a suitably sited public convenience, equipped with handwashing facilities and a drinking water supply.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

(a) Collection of Refuse - The arrangements for public cleansing are carried out under the supervision of the Borough Engineer and Surveyor.

Trade refuse is removed by the Council under an arrangement whereby one bin of trade refuse is removed for every £40 of the rateable value of the premises, a standard charge being made for any additional quantity removed.

(b) Disposal of Refuse - Disposal of household and trade refuse continues to be partly by incineration at the Epsom Sewage Works, and partly by controlled tipping at the disused brick works in East Street. The policy of the Council is to discontinue incineration and to rely completely on controlled tipping.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

Streams and surface water courses were inspected during the year and have been generally maintained in a satisfactory condition. The work carried out by the County Council in recent years on the Hogsmill has been beneficial in its results. The benefits resulting from the completion of the Hogsmill Valley Joint Sewerage Scheme were referred to in the report for 1957.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

The Municipal Baths are situated in East Street, Epsom, and comprise a covered swimming bath (convertible into a hall), turkish, foam and slipper baths and cafe. Swimming bath water is subjected to continuous filtration and chlorination. Frequent bacteriological examinations are made to test the efficiency of the purification process.

There is one privately owned swimming pool in the Borough open to the general public. The pool is equipped with plant for continuous filtration and chlorination, and the water is subjected to periodical bacteriological examination.

The other bathing pools in the Borough are provided in connection with schools and clubs and are not open to the general public.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

A classified statement of the number of premises visited, the defects or nuisances discovered, the action and the result of action taken in regard to these, will be found in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

4. HOUSING

Details of the work of the Public Health Department in connection with housing will be found in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector. This is mainly concerned with the state of existing houses and the steps taken, where necessary, to bring them into a state of good repair, or in a few cases, to effect their demolition or closure.

With regard to the erection of new houses, I am indebted to the Borough Engineer for the following information regarding the number of new houses erected during the year.

Erected by local authority	Nil
Erected by private enterprise	203
Converted properties:-	
(a) by local authority	Nil
(b) by private enterprise	2

RE-HOUSING OF TUBERCULOUS PERSONS

Three houses were allocated to housing applicants in whose families there were tuberculous members. Since the war priority has been given to 104 cases under this heading, a total which reflects the importance the Council attaches to good housing conditions in the treatment and prevention of this infectious disease. Priority has also been given to a limited number of applicants whose households contained a member suffering from illness of non-infectious character, but rendering rehousing necessary.

5. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The report of the Chief Public Health Inspector gives details of the work done in connection with supervision in the manufacture, storage, sale and distribution of food.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Table I includes death rates and incidence rates of the notifiable infectious diseases, with the figures for the previous year for comparison. Table IV shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during 1959.

The presence of several large hospitals in the district influences the incidence of infectious diseases. For example, the majority of cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified from the Epsom District Hospital, though many of the patients were resident in the Borough only for the time of their confinement. A column has therefore been included in Table IV to show the number of notifications relating to patients in hospitals.

Table V shows the incidence of notifiable infectious diseases classified according to age and sex, with the exception of tuberculosis, which is dealt with in Table VII.

SMALLPOX

No case of smallpox was notified during the year.

Vaccination against Smallpox

During the year 780 notifications were received of vaccinations performed against smallpox. Of these 501 related to primary vaccinations and 279 to re-vaccinations. In 283 cases the treatment was given at clinics and in 497 by family doctors.

Treatment of children under 1 year of age accounted for 388 of the primary vaccinations, equivalent to 48.5% of the births registered in the Borough in 1959. The comparative figure for 1958 was 69.8%, and for England and Wales in the same year 44.5%.

SCARLET FEVER

Seventy-eight cases of scarlet fever were notified during the year, compared with 25 for the previous year. The incidence rate per 1,000 population was 1.15. Four cases were admitted to hospital for treatment.

Fortunately the increase in numbers was not associated with any increase in virulence of the infection. The rise in incidence was not confined to this locality, but occurred over a large part of the country.

DIPHTHERIA

No case of diphtheria occurred during the year, and no notification of the disease has been received since 1954. Figures relating to the incidence of diphtheria since 1934 have been summarised in Table VI.

Diphtheria Immunisation

The aim is for every child to receive a primary treatment in its first year of life with reinforcing treatment every 3 to 4 years up to the end of school life. It is not claimed, even with such treatment, that absolute immunisation will be attained by every child, but there is clear evidence that the risk of an untreated child contracting diphtheria is four times as great as that of an immunised child, and that the risk of death is nearly thirty times as great.

Although no case of diphtheria has been notified in Epsom and Ewell for five years, there has been, during the past two years, an increase in the incidence of this disease in several parts of the country, including the London area. Immunisation against diphtheria, therefore, retains its importance in the immunisation programme, for diphtheria is only one of the diseases which can be controlled by immunisation. Others include smallpox, against which vaccination is desirable in the first four months of life, whooping cough, which is often most severe and dangerous in young infants and therefore treatment should be concluded as soon as possible after six months of age, poliomyelitis, which is at its most commonest, if not at its severest, in the early years, and therefore must be included in the immunisation programme at this stage. Tetanus, although a rare disease now, requires consideration before the end of the first year.

Fortunately it is sometimes possible to combine the treatment against diphtheria and tetanus in one series of injections, and sometimes to add whooping cough. If this can be arranged with the doctor giving the treatment it certainly eases the burden on the mother and is not so trying to the patience of the child.

Treatment can be obtained from general practitioners under the terms of the National Health Service Act, or from clinics arranged by the local health authority, these being held at regular intervals at all Infant Welfare Centres serving the district, of which details are set out on page 11. These arrangements are intended primarily for infants and others under school age. Clinics in schools are arranged as required by the Divisional Medical Officer for pupils requiring treatment.

Notifications were received that 815 children received primary treatments and that 845 received reinforcing doses. The following figures show how the facilities for treatment have been used.

	Primary Treatment	Reinforcing Doses
Treated at Clinics and Schools	650	756
Treated by General Practitioners	165	89
	815	845

At the end of the year it was estimated that 60.9% of children under the age of 15 years had been treated against diphtheria in the period 1955 - 1959, and were still in an effective state of immunity. The comparable figure for 1958 was 62.7%, and for England and Wales in the same year 54.0%.

ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS

The incidence of poliomyelitis was small, only one case being notified. This, unfortunately, was a virulent infection in an adult male who had not been vaccinated against poliomyelitis, and terminated in the death of the patient.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

Vaccination against poliomyelitis must now take first place in the means of prevention of this disease. It is too early yet to know how effective the vaccine at present in use will be, and it will be a few years before a complete picture can be obtained of the efficiency and duration of its protective powers. In spite of this, and taking into consideration the malignant nature of the disease and the ineffectiveness of other methods of controlling it, everyone eligible to apply for treatment should do so at the earliest opportunity. The upper age limit has now been extended to 40 years. Expectant mothers, members of health, hospital and nursing services and travellers abroad can apply for the treatment whatever their age.

It is estimated that 2,612 persons under 18 years of age and 7,150 over 18 years of age were vaccinated during the year. Since vaccination became available approximately 13,700 persons under 18 years of age, out of an estimated total of 15,700 (87%) within that age limit have been treated. Between the ages of 18 and 40 years approximately 8,000 of an estimated population of 17,000 have received treatment.

MEASLES

Three hundred and seventy-five cases of measles were notified during the year compared with 431 for 1958. The case rate per 1,000 population was 5.53 compared with 6.37 in 1958.

DYSENTERY

Twenty-eight cases were notified, 12 relating to private residents and 11 to patients under treatment in mental hospitals, and 5 residents of a nursery. In the hospital cases the causative organism was of the Flexner type. In the remainder the organisms isolated were of the Sonne type which usually causes a relatively mild illness, but the spread of which is difficult to prevent. Hence outbreaks involving schools and nurseries are common.

FOOD POISONING

Twenty-five cases of food poisoning were notified during the year giving an incidence rate of 0.37 per 1,000 population. In 1958 there were 26 notifications with an incidence rate of 0.38.

Eight of these occurred in an outbreak in a residential school. The resultant illness was mild in character and the organisms involved belonged to the Bacillus Welchii group. In 10 cases notified as food poisoning the illness was due to infection by salmonella typhi-murium. There was no association between the patients and it was impossible to trace the source of infection in any. This is a common experience in investigating food poisoning due to this organism, which is being found in increasing frequency in cases of enteric-colitis. It has been isolated from such common articles of food as cream filled pastries, eggs and sausages. It has also been found in bone meal which is widely used in animal feeding and agriculture. There are usually no remains of these by the time the investigation of the illness commences. In 2 cases each the infection was due to Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Thompson, one was due to Salmonella Durham, and in 2 cases food poisoning organisms were not detected.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

Twenty-six cases were notified, giving an incidence rate of 31.8 per 1,000 live and still births compared with 30 cases and a rate of 39.6 in 1958, and a rate of 14.8 for England and Wales. The presence of the large maternity department of the Epsom District Hospital which deals with approximately 1,300 births a year has considerable influence on the figures, for 25 of the notifications related to its patients. Twenty of the latter were admitted to the hospital from addresses in neighbouring districts.

WHOOPING COUGH

Eight cases of whooping cough were notified during the year, the incidence rate being 0.12 per 1,000 population compared with 0.31 in 1958. No deaths were registered from the disease.

Whooping Cough Immunisation

Notifications were received from medical practitioners and clinics that 755 children had received treatment. In 619 cases the treatment was given in combination with immunisation against either whooping cough or tetanus and sometimes both.

TETANUS

No case of tetanus was reported.

Immunisation against Tetanus

Notifications were received that 731 children were given active immunisation against tetanus for the first time and that 17 persons received reinforcing treatment. In the case of 600 children the treatment was given in combination with other prophylactics; in the remainder it was given singly.

TUBERCULOSIS

Registration of Tubercular Persons

During the year the names of 69 persons were added to the tuberculosis register, and 104 were removed. Details of these alterations are as follows:-

Registration of Tubercular Persons (cont.)

ADDITIONS TO REGISTER		REMOVALS FROM REGISTER	
Primary notifications relating to private residents already residing in the district	19	By removals to other districts	
		(a) Private residents	23
Transfer of private residents notified in other areas, now residing in the district	26	(b) Patients in institutions	14
Notifications of persons residing in institutions		By recovery	
Already resident	20	(a) Private residents	47
On admission	1	(b) Patients in institutions	-
Posthumous notifications			
In private households	-		
In institutions	2	By death +	
Restored		(a) Private residents	4
Private residents	1	(b) Patients in institutions	16
In institutions	-		
	69		104

\+ In 16 out of 20 cases the cause of death was not attributed to tuberculosis.

At the end of the year the number of names on the register totalled 456, distributed as follows:-

	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
In private residence	206	139	15	11
Patients in Mental Hospitals	67	14	2	2
	273	153	17	13

There were also 35 patients in mental hospitals whose names had been returned on the tuberculosis registers of the districts in which they were domiciled before admission.

Notification of Tuberculosis

Thirty-nine notifications were received from medical practitioners of persons certified, so far as is known for the first time, to be suffering from tuberculosis. In Table VII these cases are classified by sex and age and subdivided into pulmonary and non-pulmonary types of disease. The table also shows whether the patient was a private resident or a mental hospital patient. In Table IX the number of notifications received in previous years is given for purposes of comparison.

Deaths from Tuberculosis

Four deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis occurred during the year, giving a death rate of 0.06. Of the deaths 2 were of private residents and 2 of patients in mental hospitals. An analysis of deaths by age, sex and form of disease is contained in Table VIII, which is further sub-divided to show whether the death was of a private resident or of a patient in one of the mental hospitals.

EPSOM, LEATHERHEAD AND DISTRICT CARE COMMITTEE

The Epsom, Leatherhead and District Tuberculosis Care Committee has continued its work with energy during the year under the Chairmanship of Alderman Mrs. A. Winter. The Secretary of the Committee is Miss M. Wright, who is also the Surrey County Council's Care Almoner in the area, and the Treasurer is Mr. T. L. Flanagan, of the Epsom Branch of the Westminster Bank. Members of the Committee include representatives of the Borough Council, the Leatherhead Urban District Council, Associations and Societies interested in social welfare, and officers engaged in work connected with health, welfare and relief. Thus the Committee is in a good position to help solve the special problems of the tuberculous person and the household to which he belongs, and much valuable work has been done.

B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis

This treatment is available at Chest Clinics to contacts in the family of tuberculous persons, if preliminary testing shows that they have not already been infected. It has also been offered to children approaching school leaving age. The treatment in schools is carried out by the staff of the Divisional Medical Officer, who has provided the following information relating to the work done in local schools in 1959.

Communications were sent to the parents of school children ascertained to be in the age group concerned, with the following results:-

No. of children offered treatment	1,008
No. consenting	718 (equivalent to 71.3%)
No. of children vaccinated	673 (equivalent to 66.8%)

Twenty-three children of the 178 consenting failed to keep their appointments, and 22 were found to be positive to the preliminary Mantoux test and therefore were not included in the number treated.

TABLE I. COMPARATIVE BIRTH, DEATH AND MATERNAL MORTALITY RATES, AND INCIDENCE RATES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES FOR THE YEARS 1958 and 1959.

	1958	1959
Rates per 1,000 Population		
BIRTHS		
Live Birth Rate	11.0	11.8
DEATHS		
All Causes	15.9	15.0
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Tuberculosis	0.12	0.06
Influenza	0.15	0.56
Smallpox	-	-
Poliomyelitis	-	0.01
Pneumonia	1.08	0.56
Measles	-	-
NOTIFICATIONS (Corrected)		
Typhoid	0.01	-
Paratyphoid	0.01	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	0.03
Scarlet Fever	0.37	1.15
Whooping Cough	0.31	0.12
Diphtheria	-	-
Erysipelas	0.07	0.12
Smallpox	-	-
Measles	6.37	5.53
Pneumonia	0.56	0.88
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	-	0.01
(Non-paralytic)	0.01	-
Food Poisoning	0.38	0.37
Dysentery	0.24	0.41
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	0.61	0.55
(Non-respiratory)	0.06	0.03
Rates per 1,000 Live Births		
INFANT MORTALITY		
Under 1 year of age	21.5	11.3
Under 4 weeks of age (Neonatal)	16.1	7.5
Under 1 week of age (Early Neonatal)		6.1
Rates per 1,000 Total (Live & Still) Births		
Still Births	17.2	22.0
Perinatal Mortality		12.7
Puerperal Pyrexia (Notification of)	39.6	31.8
Maternal Mortality	-	-

TABLE II

COMPARATIVE BIRTH, DEATH AND MORTALITY RATES 1931 - 1959

(DECENNIAL AVERAGES 1931-1950)

Period	Birth Rate per 1000 Population			Death Rate per 1000 Population			Deaths of children under 1 year of age		
	England and Wales	Epsom and Ewell		England and Wales	Epsom and Ewell		England and Wales	Epsom and Ewell	
							Rate per 1000 live births	Rate per 1000 live births	No. of infant deaths
1931 - 1940	14.9	12.6		12.3	7.3		58	41	
1941 - 1950	16.9	14.2		12.3	9.4		43	28.4	26
1951	15.5	10.6	(11.2) +	12.5	10.6	(10.2) +	29.6	27.6	20
1952	15.3	9.9	(10.4)	11.3	9.0	(8.7)	27.6	20.9	14
1953	15.5	10.0	(11.2)	11.4	17.0	(14.9) ++	26.8	20.6	14
1954	15.2	9.7	(10.9)	11.3	17.0	(15.0)	25.4	13.8	9
1955	15.0	9.8	(10.9)	11.7	16.6	(14.6)	24.9	12.6	8
1956	15.6	10.1	(11.2)	11.7	18.1	(9.3) +++	23.7	20.5	14
1957	16.1	9.5	(11.5)	11.5	16.8	(9.1)	23.1	28.2	18
1958	16.4	11.0	(13.2)	11.7	15.8	(9.1)	22.5	21.5	16
1959	16.5	11.8	(14.1)	11.6	15.0	(9.1)	22.0	11.3	9

\+ Bracketed figures represent standardised rates.
++ Deaths of patients in mental hospitals included from 1953.
+++ From 1956 the standardised death rate allows for the high mortality in residental institutions, such as hospitals for mental illness.

TABLE III

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE BOROUGH OF EPSOM AND EWELL

		Male	Female	Total
1.	Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	4	-	4
2.	Other forms of Tuberculosis	-	-	-
3.	Syphilitic Disease	5	3	8
4.	Diphtheria	-	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6.	Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	1	-	1
8.	Measles	-	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	3	-	3
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	5	9
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	37	7	44
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	15	15
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	9	9
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	44	48	92
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	4	4	8
16.	Diabetes	1	2	3
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	53	69	122
18.	Coronary disease angina	91	49	140
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	3	12	15
20.	Other heart diseases	72	127	199
21.	Other circulatory diseases	19	25	44
22.	Influenza	14	24	38
23.	Pneumonia	21	39	60
24.	Bronchitis	19	12	31
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	8	2	10
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	6	-	6
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	2	4
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	4	1	5
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	11	-	11
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	-	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	2	3	5
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	41	63	104
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	3	1	4
34.	All other accidents	6	8	14
35.	Suicide	5	4	9
36.	Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-

TABLE IV

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	Notifications of Patients in Private Houses or Nursing Homes	Notifications of Patients in Hospitals	Total
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	2	-	2
Scarlet Fever	78	-	78
Whooping Cough	8	-	8
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Erysipelas	7	1	8
Smallpox	-	-	-
Measles	375	-	375
Pneumonia	60	-	60
Poliomyelitis, Paralytic	1	-	1
Non-Paralytic	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	25	-	25
Dysentery	17	11	28
Malaria (contracted abroad)	-	-	-
(indigenous)	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	18	19	37
Non-Respiratory	1	1	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	26	26

TABLE V

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES BY AGE AND SEX

(For Tuberculosis see Table VII)

	Under 1 year		1 - 2		3 - 4		5 - 9		10 - 14		15 - 24		25 - 44		45 - 64		65 years & over		All Ages		Total all ages both sexes
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Scarlet Fever	-	-	2	1	1	5	30	24	7	5	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	43	35	78
Whooping Cough	-	-	1	1	1	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	5	3	8
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	1	1	2	4	4	8
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	4	29	32	45	46	102	99	5	7	3	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	184	191	375
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	7	3	4	3	1	1	10	8	10	10	33	27	60
Poliomyelitis, Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Non-Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	1	1	1	1	2	1	-	9	1	1	2	1	-	2	1	-	1	16	9	25
Dysentery	-	-	1	2	2	-	1	1	1	-	-	2	3	4	4	-	7	-	19	9	28
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	16	-	-	-	-	-	26	26

TABLE VI

INCIDENCE OF DIPHTHERIA IN THE BOROUGH OF EPSOM AND EWELL

(QUINQUENNIAL AVERAGES 1934-1958)

Year	Number of cases notified	Incidence Rate per 1,000 Population	Mortality Rate per 1,000 Population
1934 - 1938	20	0.40	0.016
1939 - 1943	9.8	0.16	0.004
1944 - 1948	6	0.09	0.004
1949 - 1953	0.2	0.00	-
1954 - 1958	1.6	0.02	-
1959	-	-	-

TABLE VII

NOTIFICATION OF TUBERCULOSIS BY AGE AND SEX

Year	Private Residents				Mental Hospital Patients				Total	
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
5 - 9	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
10 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 24	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
25 - 34	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	2
35 - 44	-	3	-	-	3	1	1	-	4	4
45 - 54	4	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	7	1
55 - 64	4	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	7	1
65 years & over	3	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	8	-
TOTAL	11	7	1	-	15	4	1	-	28	11

TABLE VIII

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS BY AGE AND SEX

Year	Private Residents				Mental Hospital Patients				Total	
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 54	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 64	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
65 years & over	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	-
TOTAL	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	4	-

TABLE IX

TUBERCULOSIS INCIDENCE AND MORTALITY RATES 1934-1959

(QUINQUENNIAL AVERAGES 1934-1958)

Year	Number of Primary Notifications			Notification Rate per 1000 Population	Deaths			Death Rate per 1000 Population
1934-1938	44			0.78	18			0.35
1939-1943	67			1.11	33			0.52
1944-1948	75			1.15	26			0.36
1949-1953 +	66			0.96	19			0.28
		Private	Hospital			Private	Hospital	
1954-1958	53	30	23	0.78	14	5	9	0.20
1959	39	19	20	0.57	4	2	2	0.06

\+ From 1953 figures include notifications and deaths of patients in Mental Hospitals.

Public Health Department,
West Hill House,
West Hill,
EPSOM.

June, 1960.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the

BOROUGH OF EPSOM AND EWELL

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my twenty-third Annual Report, which relates to the work of the Public Health Inspectors for the year ended 31st December, 1959, in accordance with requirements of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959.

During the year a total of 5,864 inspections and visits were made, which compares very favourably with previous years. Over 900 complaints were investigated and there were many enquiries from members of the public, particularly in relation to housing matters and food. The inspection of food premises continues to show that the majority of food traders are willing to co-operate in matters of food hygiene and the general standard of food shops, cafes, bakeries, etc., has in many cases been improved by repairs and major alterations.

The housing section of the report summarises the work carried out in connection with unfit houses during the past five years, which has been regarded as the first half of the Council's Slum Clearance programme. Sampling under the Food and Drugs Act was carried out regularly during the year, covering a wide variety of food. Milk, ice-cream and water samples were taken for bacteriological examination and these show that a high standard has been maintained.

Rodent infestation has been kept well under control by modern methods of treatment, prompt attention to reports from the public and inspection of likely breeding grounds. Numerous requests were received for advice and assistance in dealing with many types of insect pests and over 1,000 wasps' nests were dealt with by my Department during the year, creating a record. The early summer and long periods of dry weather resulted in reports being received from early June to late September from all parts of the Borough. Every effort was made to give priority to the more urgent cases where the nest was likely to be a danger to the occupants of the premises, but during the peak periods, when 20-30 reports were received daily, it became impossible to cope with them and delay was unavoidable. The Council make no charge for this service, and the assistance given is much appreciated by the public, as wasps' nests can cause considerable nuisance and few people know how to deal with them.

In concluding my report, it may be appropriate to refer to my impending retirement in May of this year. I have completed 27 years service with the Council, the past 23 years as a Chief Officer, and I consider myself fortunate having been employed in such a pleasant and progressive district.

During my term of office, the development of the Borough has brought about many changes, a comparatively quiet country town with rural surroundings has become a large residential area with busy shopping centres and constant traffic through main roads. On the other hand, much of its charm and character has been retained by the preservation of open spaces and control of building. The responsibilities of the Public Health Inspectors have increased with the growth of the Borough and our

duties to-day are very different from those we were called upon to perform twenty-five years ago. In more recent years administration has certainly become more complicated by increased legislation, while the higher standard of living and improved facilities for education have created a greater demand from the public for advice and assistance in matters concerning public health.

In carrying out my duties, I have been consistently supported by an efficient and conscientious staff to whom I am deeply grateful. I refer particularly to my Deputy, Mr. L. H. Grace, whom I am pleased the Council have decided to appoint as my successor, my Chief Clerk, Mr. H. J. T. Woolford, and my Senior Typist, Miss D. D. Wood, who have all been with me since I was appointed. I also wish to record my gratitude to Dr. C. Ive, the Medical Officer of Health, for his advice and kindly consideration and to all the other Chief Officers of the Corporation for their assistance and co-operation. Finally, I wish to thank the members of the Council, especially the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, for the support and consideration extended to me throughout my years of service.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WM. H. C. HAGGER.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Summary of Inspections and Visits.

Dwelling-houses - Under P. H. Act	223
" " " Housing Acts	21
" " " Reinspections	513
Other Premises - Under P. H. Act	93
" " Reinspections	146
Complaints investigated	343
Drainage - Inspections	999
" Water Tests	192
" Smoke Tests	11
" Other Tests	8
" Cesspools inspected	78
Factories - With Power	81
" Without Power	12
" Outworkers	30
Food - Inspection of Premises	853
" Slaughterhouses - Meat Inspections	116
" Visits re Unsound Food	184
Heating Appliances and Fireguards Act	4
Infectious Disease - Enquiries and Visits	341
Insect Pests	181
Keeping of Animals or Poultry	2
Offices - Inspections	4
Pet Animals Act, Licences, etc.	1
Public Conveniences	32
Rat or Mice Infestation	68
Rivers and Streams	7
Schools - Sanitary Accommodation, Disinfestation, etc.	27
Shops Act, 1950 (Hours)	72
" " " (Welfare)	16
Smoke Observation or Air Pollution	118
Stables and Piggeries	65
Swimming Pools	20
Tents, Vans and Sheds	61
Theatres, Cinemas, Halls, etc.	2
Vacant Land, Dumps, etc.	49
Verminous premises or Articles	8
Visits, Miscellaneous (not included above)	883
	5,864

SAMPLING

Samples under Food and Drugs Act	68
Ice-cream Samples	26
Milk Samples (bacteriological)	95
Water Samples from:-	
Main Supplies (domestic)	55
Mental Hospitals - private wells (untreated)	90
" " " " (treated)	29
Swimming Baths and Pools	24

COMPLAINTS

The following is a summary of the complaints received during the year:-

Insanitary conditions of premises	49
Flooding	6
Choked or defective drains	129
Offensive accumulations	9
Rat or Mice infestation	630
Nuisance from flies or other insect pests	33
	856

Complaints (cont.)

Brought Forward	856
Vermin	5
Defective dustbins	2
Offensive smells	36
Unsound Food	16
Factory and Shops Acts	5
Overcrowding	1
Smoke	10
Animals and Poultry kept so as to be a nuisance	4
Dirty Milk Bottles	7
Miscellaneous	17
	959

NUISANCES AND DEFECTS

Number of premises where nuisances or defects found	86
Number of nuisances or defects found	366

NOTICES

Number of Notices served under the following Acts:-

Public Health Act, 1936	(Statutory)	7
" " " "	(Informal)	72
Housing Act, 1957	(Statutory)	1
" " "	(Informal)	-
Factories Act, 1937	(Informal)	5
Shops Act, 1950	(Informal)	3
Food and Drugs Act, 1955	(Informal)	11
		99

Number of Notices outstanding at end of year 19

SUMMARY OF NUISANCES ABATED, DEFECTS REMEDIED AND OTHER MATTERS ATTENDED TO.

DWELLING-HOUSES AND OTHER PREMISES

Roofs repaired	54
Eaves gutters and downpipes repaired	13
Chimney stacks rebuilt or repaired	10
Repointing or rendering of brickwork	14
Other work carried out to remedy dampness	6
Choked drains cleared	145
Drains repaired or relaid	62
Inspection Chambers built or repaired	40
New W.C's installed	46
W.C's renewed or repaired	8
W.C. flushing cisterns renewed or repaired	3
New Baths installed	35
Soil Vent Pipes or F.A.I's renewed or repaired	12
New Gullies provided	28
Sink Gully surrounds repaired	2
New Sinks or Wash-basins provided or renewed	68
Waste pipes provided or renewed	2
Water Service Pipes renewed or repaired	4
Cesspools emptied or repaired	29
Cesspools abolished	5
Existing house drains connected to Public Sewer	2

Dwelling-houses and Other Premises (cont.)

New Dustbins provided	6
Yard paving provided or repaired	3
Rooms cleansed and redecorated	16
Plaster of walls and/or ceilings repaired	20
Floors repaired or renewed	5
Fireplaces or ranges repaired or renewed	3
Staircases repaired or renewed	1
Doors repaired or renewed	12
Window frames repaired or renewed	33
Sashcords provided or renewed	4
Additional lighting or ventilation provided	1
Food Stores provided, ventilated or cleansed	1
Rooms disinfected after Tuberculosis	1
Disinfection of rooms or articles on request	3
Rooms, etc., sprayed for flies or other insect pests	21
Nuisances from animals or poultry abated	4
Offensive accumulations removed	4
Other nuisances abated or defects remedied	14

HOUSING

I. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:-

1.	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected under the Public Health or Housing Acts.	244
	(b)	Number of inspections or re-inspections	513
2.		Number of dwelling-houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	61

II. Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit:-

(a)	after Informal Notice	39
(b)	after service of Formal Notice	3
(c)	Number of Notices outstanding at end of year	19

III. Proceedings under the Housing Act, 1957.

Number of dwelling-houses found unfit for human habitation and represented under Section 17 (1) of the Housing Act, 1957	1
Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	-
Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	-
Number of dwelling-houses demolished as a result of formal action	4

Housing Repairs

Sixty-one Informal Notices relating to housing defects were served on owners of houses capable of repair and at the end of the year forty-two of these Notices had been complied with.

Slum Clearance

Under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, every local authority was required within one year after the commencement of the Act, to submit to the Minister proposals for dealing with houses which appeared to be unfit for human habitation and to prepare a programme of action to be taken within five years.

In September, 1955, it was estimated that in the Borough there were approximately 90 houses unfit for human habitation which should be considered for demolition. Nine of these were likely to be demolished for private redevelopment, leaving 81 to be dealt with in Clearance Areas or as Individual Unfit Houses. In formulating their Slum Clearance programme, the Council decided to deal with half this number, i.e. 40 houses, within the next five years (1955 - 1960) subject to the necessary land being made available for rehousing purposes, leaving the remainder to be dealt with when the development of the major portion of the Sewage Farm (now disused) was undertaken.

The proposal to deal with 40 houses during the period stated has been achieved, but the gradual deterioration of some of the older properties in the Borough has not only increased the urgency for dealing with those deferred for inclusion in the second half of the programme, but brought to light others which should receive consideration.

The increase of rents under the Rent Act, Certificates of Disrepair and Improvement Grants have to some extent encouraged owners to improve the condition of their property, but there are a number of houses which are not only sub-standard, but completely worn out and uneconomic to repair. Action under the Housing Act to secure their demolition cannot reasonably be taken until the Council can offer the occupants alternative accommodation.

The Public Health Committee have informed the Housing Committee that approximately 50-60 dwelling-houses will be required for rehousing purposes in order to complete the second half of the Slum Clearance programme. Bearing in mind that there are over 600 housing applications on the Council's waiting list, including many urgent cases, it must be admitted that the Housing Committee have a very difficult problem to deal with, particularly in view of the limited sites suitable for housing purposes available in the Borough.

The following is a summary of the action taken under the Slum Clearance programme and the position in relation to unfit houses at the end of 1959:-

(i)	Under of unfit houses included in the original list approved by the Joint (Slum Clearance) Sub-Committee in September, 1955, where there was a possibility of having to rehouse the occupants	81
(ii)	Number of unfit houses considered likely to be demolished for private redevelopment	9
(iii)	Number of dwelling-houses which have since been found unfit and dealt with as a matter of urgency	17
	TOTAL	107

Slum Clearance (cont.)

		Brought forward	107
	Action taken to date (31.12.59)		
(i)	Number of unfit houses demolished as a result of official or informal action	20	
(ii)	Demolition Orders made - occupants awaiting rehousing	2	
(iii)	Closing Orders made - premises now vacant	7	
(iv)	Other vacant houses known to be uninhabitable and awaiting demolition	8	
(v)	Number of unfit houses in two Clearance Areas declared (13 houses vacated to date) awaiting demolition	23	60
			47

Rehousing

Since June 1955, 29 families have been rehoused by the Corporation as a result of action under the Slum Clearance programme. There are 10 houses in the two Clearance Areas at The Kingsway, Ewell, and Lower West Street, Ewell, also 2 houses subject to Demolition Orders, which are still occupied. In several cases there is only one occupant and the Housing Manager is finding it extremely difficult to provide suitable alternative accommodation in such cases.

When the occupants of the 12 houses awaiting demolition have been rehoused, the total number of family units rehoused since 1955 will be 41, which will achieve the Council's proposals for the first half of the Slum Clearance Scheme.

Rent Act, 1957 - Certificates of Disrepair

During the year 11 applications were received for Certificates of Disrepair. In each case the premises concerned were inspected to confirm the defects referred to in the Notice served by the tenant on the landlord and the necessary authority obtained to notify the landlord (on Form J) of the Council's proposal to issue a Certificate of Disrepair.

The following is a summary of the position with regard to applications on the 31st December, 1959:-

Total number of applications received		86
Undertakings (Form K) received from Landlords	66	
Certificates of Disrepair issued	18	
Applications for Certificates not approved	2	
Applications under consideration	-	
Total	86	

Certificates of Disrepair cancelled 5

Eradication of Bed Bugs

Three houses were dealt with for bug infestation. The rooms affected were thoroughly treated with insecticide, and the removal of bedding for steam disinfection was found unnecessary.

Schools

Twenty-seven inspections and visits by the Public Health Inspectors were made during the year to schools in the Borough, including private schools.

There are twenty-two private schools in the Borough.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937

(1) Inspections for Purposes of Provision as to health including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	17	7	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	131	81	5	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Out-workers' premises)	9	5	-	-
TOTAL	157	93	5	-

Factories (cont.)

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found — Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred by H.M. Inspector (5)	No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	4	4	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	2	2	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	7	7	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences (not relating to outwork)	7	7	-	-	-
TOTAL	21	21	-	1	-

3. Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110: No. of Outworkers in Aug. list required by Sec. 110(1)(e) (2)	Section 110: No. of cases of defaults in sending lists to the Council (3)	Section 110: No. of prosecutions for failing to supply lists (4)	Section 111: No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Section 111: Notices served (6)	Section 111: Prosecutions (7)
Wearing apparel (making, etc. cleansing & washing)	2	-	-	-	-	-
Curtains and furniture hangings	1	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	3	-	-	-	-	-

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

This section of the report deals with matters relating to food including the inspection of food premises, food smapling and other work carried out by the Public Health Inspectors in connection with the supervision of food supplies. The following table shows the approximate number of premises in the Borough classified under the various trades or businesses, where food is sold, manufactured or stored:-

Bakehouses	8
Bakers and Confectioners	16
Butchers	37
Cafes, Restaurants, Canteens and kitchens	50
Confectioners	57
Dairies and Milk Distributors	27
Fishmongers (wet and dry)	18
Fried Fish Shops	7
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	38
Grocery and Provision Stores	94
Ice-cream Retailers	132
Public Houses and Off Licences	57
TOTAL	541

Of the preceding premises, 175 are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, as follows:-

Manufacture of Ice-cream	1
Retail sale of Ice-cream	131
Preparation or manufacture for sale of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food	43

During the year 853 inspections of food premises were made (for details see page 47).

Milk Supply

The number of milk distributors and dairy premises (other than dairy farms) in the Borough, registered in accordance with the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 - 1954, is as follows:-

Retail Purveyors (with premises in the Borough)	4
" " (from outside the Borough)	8
Milk Receiving Depots	4
Shops from which bottled milk is sold	23

Milk Licences

The following licences to sell graded milk were granted under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949 - 1954, during the year 1959;-

	Dealers	Supplementary
"Tuberculin Tested"	10	7
"Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised"	7	-
"Pasteurised"	10	6
"Sterilised"	18	6
	45	19

Inspection and Supervision of Food (cont.)

Milk Sampling

During the year 95 samples of milk were taken from milk distributors, including supplies to local hospitals and schools, and submitted for bacteriological examination.

The following summary gives details of the grades of milk sampled and results of the examinations:-

Grade	No. of Samples
"Tuberculin Tested" Channel Island Farm Bottled	2
"Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised"	12
"Pasteurised"	81
	95

Results of Tests

	Methylene Blue Test		Phosphatase Test	
	Satis-factory	Unsatis-factory	Satis-factory	Unsatis-factory
"T.T." Channel Island Farm Bottled	2	-	-	-
"T.T. Pasteurised"	12	-	12	-
"Pasteurised"	81	-	81	-
	95	-	93	-

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Slaughterhouses

There are no licensed slaughterhouses in the Borough, but at the request of the South West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board, arrangements are made for the inspection of all animals after slaughter at Horton Farm, where a slaughterhouse is in regular use for the supply of meat to Mental Hospitals in the Borough.

The following summary relates to the inspection of animals after slaughter at the above-mentioned slaughterhouse during the year.

Meat and Other Foods (cont.)

Carcases inspected and condemned:-

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	4	11	49	-	802	-
Number inspected	4	11	49	-	802	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:						
Whole carcases	-	-	1	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	-	2	-	24	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysterci	50.00%	-	6.12%	-	2.99%	-
Tuberculosis only:						
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	1	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	.12%	-
Cysticercosis:						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958

Four applications for the renewal of licences to slaughter animals under the above Act were received and considered by the Council. In each case the licence was granted, and the fees amounting to 4/- (four shillings) were forwarded to the Borough Treasurer.

Butchers' Shops

There are 37 butchers' shops in the Borough all of which have been periodically inspected during the year, 113 visits and inspections being made.

A refrigerator or other means of cold storage is provided at each shop and all have permanent glass windows as shop fronts.

The standard of cleanliness in butchers' shops has, on the whole, been very satisfactory.

Condemned Meat and Other Foods

The following meat and other foods were inspected at shops and food stores within the Borough and found to be unfit for human consumption:-

Articles	lbs.	Tins or Jars	Packets, cartons or numbers
Bacon	14		
Bananas			9 boxes
Biscuits			1
Breakfast Foods			3
Butter	21		
Chickens			3
Chocolates & Sweets			109
Fish	245	62	
Frozen Foods			94
Fruit - Tinned		273	
Ice-cream Powder			4
Jam and Marmalade		14	
Lard	½		
Meat and Offal	655	102	
Milk		7	
Miscellaneous		101	2
Peas - Dried	172		
Rabbits	44		
Sausages	340		
Soup		6	
Sugar	7		
Tea	¼		
Turkeys			3
Vegetables - Tinned		199	
Yoghourt			24

In all cases the food was surrendered and destroyed

Bakehouses

Thirty-eight inspections and visits were made during the year to 8 bakehouses on the register.

Bakehouses (cont.)

At 6 bakehouses matters were found requiring attention and the following is a summary of the work carried out as a result of verbal or written notices:-

Cleansing of walls and ceilings	6
Repairs to drainage and sanitary accommodation	2
Cleansing or repair of floors	3
Removal of rubbish and cleansing of yard	1
Miscellaneous matters	9

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. - Sampling

Formal and informal samples have been taken regularly by the Public Health Inspectors as Sampling Officers and forwarded to Mr. D.D. Moir, who is appointed as Public Analyst to the Corporation.

During the year 68 samples were submitted for analysis, and as will be seen by the following summary covered a wide range of commodities:-

Article	Number of Samples Examined		Reported adulterated or otherwise giving rise to irregularity	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Almonds - Ground		1		
Aspirin		1		
Bacon and Egg Pie		1		
Batter Mix		2		
Blackcurrant Drink		1		
Blancmange Powder		1		
Butter		2		
Chicken Croquette		1		
Chicken - Minced		1		
Chocolate Roll	1	2	1	1
Coconut		1		
Coffee - Viennese		1		
Confectionary Filling		1		
Cough Mixture		1		
Crab Paste		1		
Cream		1		
Custard Powder		1		
Double Cream		1		
Essence of Rennet		1		
Fish Fingers		1		
Flour		1		
Frozen Lollies	1	3		
Fruit and Cream Lolly		1		1
Glace Cherries		1		
Ice-cream		6		
Ice-cream - Dairy		3		
Luncheon Meat		1		
Milk	9	1		1
Mixed Fruit		1		
Mixed Spice		1		
Nimble Bread		1		1
Peanut Butter		1		
Sausages - Beef	1			
Sausages - Pork	3			
Soup		1		

Article	Number of Samples Examined		Reported adulterated or otherwise giving rise to irregularity	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Forward	15	45	1	4
Sponge - Chocolate Plavoured		1		
Suet - Shredded		1		
Sugar Confectionery		3		
Treacle		1		
Trifle Mixture		1		
Vegetable, Lamb and Liver Dinner		1		
TOTAL	15	53	1	4

Chocolate Roll

Sample No. 4
15/1/59

Analyst reported that the sample was of inferior quality and that the sponge portion of the roll contained only 1.5% of dry fat - free cocoa - matter instead of at least 3%. This was followed up by the taking of a formal sample (see Report on Sample No. 8).

Chocolate Roll

(Sample No. 8)
12/2/59

Analyst reported that "the sponge portion of the roll contained dry fat - free cocoa - matter - 0.7%. The sponge portion of chocolate swiss roll must contain not less that 3% of dry fat - free cocoa-matter. This article is a chocolate coloured roll, artificially flavoured and containing only a token amount of chocolate or cocoa".

The Bakery was informed of the infringement and warned that precautions must be taken to ensure that such rolls are not sold as "Chocolate Rolls" unless they contain the necessary ingredients.

Nimble Bread

(Sample No.18)
28/4/59

The wording on the wrapper of Nimble Bread stated:- "Contains less starch - helps you to slim". The Analyst reported a slight apparent reduction in starch, which is achieved only by the incorporation of additional protein in the form of gluten, and in his opinion the reduction on a weight basis was so insignificant that it was misleading to make a special claim for it. As there is no recognised standard for the amount of starch in bread, it appeared to be a difficult case for the local authority to challenge. No further action was taken.

Fruit & Cream Ice Lolly

(Sample No.37)
29/7/59

Analyst reported "Constituents include Fat 2.4%, Milk Fat - none. Article is not made with cream as an ingredient and is not entitled to the description "Fruit and Cream Lolly". Description amended after warning.

Milk

(Sample No.52)
22/10/59

Sample concerned a bottle of milk found to contain a horse-chestnut which was subject to complaint from the customer.
The Analyst's Report was submitted to the Legal Proceedings Sub-Committee who decided in the light of the contents of the report not to take legal proceedings in this case.

Prosecutions

During the year legal proceedings were taken in two cases for offences under Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, as follows:-

Case No. 1

A bakery firm was fined £10 with three guineas costs for selling a loaf of bread containing a meal moth.

Case No. 2

A dairy company was fined £25 with five guineas costs for selling a bottle of milk containing a finger bandage.

Ice-cream

Ice-cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947 - 1952

At the end of the year 132 premises were registered for the sale of ice-cream in accordance with Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. All retailers obtain their supply of ice-cream from manufacturers outside the Borough, with the exception of one who manufactures it on the premises.

The majority of retailers supply only wrapped or pre-packed ice-cream which is stored in refrigerated cabinets provided by the manufacturers, and ensures a better standard of hygiene, but storage arrangements are constantly under review in the course of inspecting food premises where ice-cream is sold.

Ice-cream Sampling

During the year 3 samples of Dairy Ice-cream, six samples of Ice-cream, four frozen lollies and one Fruit and Cream Lolly were taken for chemical examination and found to comply with the required standard.

Twenty-six samples of ice-cream, two ice-cream lollies and one fruit lolly were submitted for bacteriological examination. The following table gives a summary of the results of the ice-cream samples:-

1959	Manufacturers Grades				Retailers only Grades				Itinerant Dealers Grades				Total
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	
January	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
February	1	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
March	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
April	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	5
May	1	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	6
June	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
July	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
August	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3
September	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
October	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
November	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
December	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	3	-	-	-	19	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	26

FOOD HYGIENE

The Regulations apply to any place where food is handled or supplied in the course of a food business, whether there is actual sale or not. They apply, broadly speaking, throughout the food and catering trades, and to the supply of food in clubs, schools residential establishments and staff canteens, also to stalls and vehicles.

The aim of the Regulations is to set a practical standard of food hygiene and centres on three main aspects; the structural condition of the premises, the construction and cleanliness of articles and equipment with which the food may come into contact, and the cleanly practices by food handlers themselves while they are preparing or handling the food.

The following is a summary of the various types of food premises and number of inspections made, including revisits to inspect work carried out:-

Type of Premises	No. of Inspections and Visits
Bakehouses	38
Bakers and Confectioners	17
Butchers	113
Cafes, Canteens and Kitchens	104
Dairies and Milk Shops	18
Fishmongers and Poulterers	42
Fried Fish Shops	21
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	90
Grocery and Provision Stores	184
Ice-cream Manufacturers	21
" " Retailers	31
" " Vehicles	7
Licensed Premises	15
Market Stalls and Food Vehicles	62
Sweets and Sugar Confectionery	21
Visits, Miscellaneous (not included above)	69
TOTAL	853

The majority of traders have shown a readiness to comply with the Regulations and are willing to co-operate in the efforts being made to raise the standard in the handling of food. A substantial amount of structural and cleansing work has been carried out in food shops, cafes and kitchens.

The following matters have been attended to during the year as a result of verbal or written notices:-

Walls and/or ceilings cleansed	25
Plaster of walls and/or ceilings repaired	7
Interior paintwork renewed	2
Floors renewed or repaired	11
Other structural repairs carried out	3
Sinks installed or renewed	8
Constant hot water supply installed over sinks	4
Drainage improved or repaired	1
New dustbins provided	7
Nuisances abated or other defects remedied	21

Sanitary conveniences and facilities for staff

W.C's. etc., cleansed and/or redecorated	4
Lighting or ventilation improved	5
Wash-hand basins installed	10
Constant hot water supply installed over existing wash-hand basins	8

Sanitary conveniences and facilities for staff (cont.)

Soap, Nail Brushes or Towels provided	6
Accommodation provided for clothing	3
First-Aid Materials provided	3

Shops Act, 1950

Eighty-eight inspections and visits were made regarding shops hours and conditions of employment of shop assistants. The majority of shops close earlier than required by the general closing hours spscified under the Act. Wednesday is recognised as the early closing day for most of the shops in the Borough, but there is a tendency for some shop-keepers, particularly hairdressers, to adopt an alternative half day in order to remain open on Wednesdays.

Conditions of employment of shop assistants were generally satisfactory. At one shop the ventilation was improved by the provision of an extractor fan and in several cases minor matters were attended to on request.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

In accordance with requirements of the above Act, occupiers of land or buildings are under an obligation to notify the local authority in writing, of the presence of rats or mice in substantial numbers. It is also the duty of every local authority to take such steps as may be necessary to secure, so far as practicable, that their district is kept free from rats and mice. They are empowered to make inspections and enforce owners and occupiers to carry out such operations as may be necessary for this purpose.

Advice and assistance are given to persons who report any such infestation or apply for information as to preventive measures. Such advice is based on methods of destruction recommended by the Infestation Control Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

One full-time Rodent Operative is employed in the Department and the following is a summary of the work carried out:-

Number of complaints and reports investigated	628
" " inspections and visits	4,410
" " premises found infested	719
" " treatments carried out by the Corporation's Rodent Operative:-	
at private premises	748
at business premises	133
" " rats known to have been caught and destroyed by the Corporation's Rodent Operative	740

Sewer Rat Control

The treatment of sewers was continued during the year in accordance with requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. The work is carried out by the Rodent Operative with assistance of sewermen from the Borough Engineer's Department.

For the purpose of treatment, the Borough is divided into 13 sections and sewer manholes in each section, with exception of Section No. 11, were test baited followed by poisoning any manholes where evidence of infestation was found.

Sewer Rat Control (cont.)

The following is a summary of the work carried out:-

Test Baiting: (10% of manholes in each Section)

First Treatment

Number of manholes	test baited	220
" " "	pre-baited and poisoned	22

Second Treatment:

Number of manholes	pre-baited	58
" " "	showing "takes" and poison-baited	9

Insect Pests

Numerous requests were received for advice and assistance in dealing with various types of household insect pests; flies, moths, furniture beetles, woodworm, etc.

Assistance is also given in the destruction of wasps' nests without charge, and during the year 1,041 nests were dealt with on report.

School Disinfestation

At the request of the Surrey County Council, the Corporation agreed to carry out the work of disinfestation at school buildings, school canteens and other properties in the Borough owned by the Surrey County Council.

This work has been undertaken since the 1st April, 1950, and the charges are based on the actual cost of labour, plus materials and a reasonable charge for administration.

Mosquito Control

The spraying of ponds and pools in the Wilmerhatch Lane area was carried out as in former years, and in other parts of the Borough. These control measures have largely reduced the nuisance from mosquitoes.

The Clean Air Act, 1956

The provisions of the Clean Air Act, 1956, which came into operation as from 31st December, 1956, deal with the installation of new furnaces, the height of chimneys, smoke control areas, research and publicity and the making of building byelaws.

The Council have made a Building Byelaw under Section 24 of the Clean Air Act, 1956, to require the provision in new buildings of such arrangements for heating or cooking as are calculated to prevent so far as practicable, the emission of smoke.

Smoke Control Area

In accordance with the Ministry of Housing and Local Government Circular No. 5/59, dated 26th January, 1959, the Council considered the question of preparing a phased programme for establishing smoke control areas over the next five years. It was decided to review the matter in a year's time when further evidence would be obtained concerning the use and availability of smokeless fuels.

Mortuary

One hundred and thirty-six bodies have been admitted to the mortuary and 135 post-mortems held during the year. The number includes 55 bodies from outside districts, fees amounting to £75. 12s. 6d. being received for the use of the post-mortem room.

A refrigeration plant with cold store containing a three-tier body rack is installed at the Mortuary.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

This Act provides that no person shall keep a pet shop except under licence granted by the Local Authority in accordance with the provisions of the Act and on payment of a fee not exceeding ten shillings. Three applications were received and licences granted in 1959.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951

There are no premises in the Borough which are subject to registration under the provisions of this Act, and no samples of rag flock or other fillings were taken during the year.

The Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952 and Regulations, 1953

The Public Health Inspectors as authorised Officers have carried out inspections of heating appliances offered for sale at business premises, but no infringements have been found.

INDEX

Abolition of Cesspools Sub-Committee 2
Accidental Deaths 5
Acute Poliomyelitis 17
Ambulance Facilities 8
Analysis of Mortality 22, 23
Area 4
Bakehouses 43
Bed-bugs, eradication of 37
Birth Rate 4, 5, 22, 23
Births: live, illegitimate and still 4, 5, 22
Butchers' Shops 43
Care of the Elderly 10
Care of Mothers and Young Children 9
Causes of Death 5, 24
Census, 1951 4
Central Divisional (Health) Sub-Committee 2
Certificates of Disrepair 37
Cesspools 13
Clean Air Act, 1956 49
Clinics and Treatment Centres 10, 11
" Ante-natal 11
" Chest 11
" Diphtheria 11
" Family Planning 11
" Child Welfare 11
" Scabies 10, 11
" Venereal Diseases 10, 11
Comparative Birth and Death Rates 22
Complaints 33
C.P.H.I. Preface to Report 31, 32
Deaths 4, 22, 23, 29,30
Density (persons per acre) 4
Diphtheria 16, 27
" Clinics 11
" Immunisation 17
Disinfestation 49
Domiciliary Nursing and Domestic Help 8
Drainage tests, repairs, etc. 33
Drainage and Sewerage 13
Dysentery 18
Epsom Downs, Sanitary Conditions 13
Epsom, Leatherhead & District Tuberculosis Care Committee 21
Factories 38, 39
Family Planning Association 10, 11
Food Hugiene Regulations, 1955 47
Food Inspection and Supervision 15, 40
" Sampling 44
" Food and Drugs Act, 1955 44
" Legal Proceedings 45
" Poisoning 18,
General Health Services 8
Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Regulations, 1953 ... 50
Hogsmill Stream 14
Home Help Service 9
Houses, number inhabited 4
" erected 15
Housing 15, 35
Housing Inspections 35
" rehousing of Tuberculous Persons 15
Housing (Selection of Tenants) Sub-Committee ... 2
Ice-cream premises and inspections 46
" " registration 46
" " sampling 46
Immunisation 11

Index (cont.)

Incidence of Diphtheria 27
Infant Deaths 4, 22
" Mortality 4, 6, 22
Infectious Diseases - cases notified 16, 26
" " - control 16
" " - case rates and death rates ... 22
" " - notifications 16, 25, 26
Insect Pests 49
Laboratory Facilities 8
Live Births 4, 22
Maternal Mortality 4, 6, 22
Measles 18
Meat and Other Foods - condemned 42, 43
" " " " - Premises & Inspections ... 40
Medical Loan Depot 8
Milk Supply 40
Milk Sampling 41
Milk Special Designations Licences 40
M.O.H. Preface to Report 1
Mortuary, Public 50
Mosquito Control 49
National Assistance Acts 10
Neonatal Mortality 4
Notices Served 33
Notifiable Infectious Diseases 16,17,18,19,20,22
Nuisances and Defects 34
Nursing in the Home 8
Outworkers 39
Overcrowding 34
Perinatal Mortality 4
Pet Animals Act, 1951 50
Poliomyelitis 17
" - Vaccination 18
Population 4, 7
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 48
Provision of Nursing Equipment and Apparatus ... 8
Public Cleansing 13
" Conveniences 13, 33
" " Sub-Committee 2
" Health Act Inspections 35
" " Committee 2
Puerperal Pyrexia 19
Pulmonary Tuberculosis 19, 20
Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951 ... 50
Rateable Value 4
Refuse - Collection and Disposal 13
Rent Act, 1957 37
Rivers and Streams 14
Road Accidents 6
Sampling - Food, Water, etc. 33
Sanitary Circumstances of the Area 12
Sanitary Conveniences on Epsom Downs 13
" Inspection of the Area 33
Scabies - Clinics 10
" - Treatment 9
Scarlet Fever 16
Schools 38, 49
School Disinfestation 49
Sewerage and Sewage Works 13
Sewer Rat Control 48
Shops Act, 1950 48
Slaughter of Animals Act, 1954 42
Slaughterhouses 41
Slaughtering 42

Index (cont.)

Incidence of Diphtheria 27
Infant Deaths 4, 22
" Mortality 4, 6, 22
Infectious Diseases - cases notified 16, 26
" " - control 16
" " - case rates and death rates ... 22
" " - notifications 16, 25, 26
Insect Pests 49
Laboratory Facilities 8
Live Births 4, 22
Maternal Mortality 4, 6, 22
Measles 18
Meat and Other Foods - condemned 42, 43
" " " " - Premises & Inspections ... 40
Medical Loan Depot 8
Milk Supply 40
Milk Sampling 41
Milk Special Designations Licences 40
M.O.H. Preface to Report 1
Mortuary, Public 50
Mosquito Control 49
National Assistance Acts 10
Neonatal Mortality 4
Notices Served 33
Notifiable Infectious Diseases 16,17,18,19,20,22
Nuisances and Defects 34
Nursing in the Home 8
Outworkers 39
Overcrowding 34
Perinatal Mortality 4
Pet Animals Act, 1951 50
Poliomyelitis 17
" - Vaccination 18
Population 4, 7
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 48
Provision of Nursing Equipment and Apparatus ... 8
Public Cleansing 13
" Conveniences 13, 33
" " Sub-Committee 2
" Health Act Inspections 35
" " Committee 2
Puerperal Pyrexia 19
Pulmonary Tuberculosis 19, 20
Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951 ... 50
Rateable Value 4
Refuse - Collection and Disposal 13
Rent Act, 1957 37
Rivers and Streams 14
Road Accidents 6
Sampling - Food, Water, etc. 33
Sanitary Circumstances of the Area 12
Sanitary Conveniences on Epsom Downs 13
" Inspection of the Area 33
Scabies - Clinics 10
" - Treatment 9
Scarlet Fever 16
Schools 38, 49
School Disinfestation 49
Sewerage and Sewage Works 13
Sewer Rat Control 48
Shops Act, 1950 48
Slaughter of Animals Act, 1954 42
Slaughterhouses 41
Slaughtering 42

Index (cont.)

Slum Clearance Programme 36
Smallpox 16
Smoke Abatement 50
Staff 3
Still Births 4
Statistics of Area 4
Suicidal Deaths 6
Swimming Baths and Pools 14
Tetanus 19
" - Immunisation 19
Tuberculosis 19,20,21,28
Vaccination against Poliomyelitis 18
" " Smallpox 9,11,16
" B.C.G. against Tuberculosis 21
Venereal Diseases - Clinics 10
Vital Statistics 4
Water Sampling 33
" Supply 12
Whooping Cough 19
" " Immunisation 19

Index (cont.)

Skin Clearance Programme ... 30
Smallpox ... 16
Smoke Abatement ... 32
Staff ... 3
Still Births ... 6
Statistics of Area ... 4
Suicidal Deaths ... 6
Swimming Baths and Pools ... 14
Tetanus ... 15
" - Immunisation ... 15
Tuberculosis ... 19,20,21,26
Vaccination against Poliomyelitis ... 18
" " Smallpox ... 9,11,16
" D.T.P. against Tuberculosis ... 23
Venereal Diseases - Clinics ... 10
Vital Statistics ... 4
Water Sampling ... 22
" Supply ... 12
Whooping Cough ... 19
" " Immunisation ... 19